



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
MAYOR JERRY SANDERS

San Diego Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, August 21, 2007

CONTACT: Julie Zielstra
(619) 236-5817

“Let’s Talk About It: Jewish Literature” - Reading and Discussion Series

San Diego, CA – The San Diego County Library and the City of San Diego Library systems will host three five-part, Wednesday evening national reading and book discussion series, entitled, “Let’s Talk About It: Jewish Literature – Identity and Imagination.” These three series, explore Jewish literature and culture through scholar-led lively discussions of contemporary and classic books on common themes. The series are free of charge and open to all adults.

Two of the three series begin in September 2007, both on Wednesday evenings, one in La Jolla and the other in Poway. The third series begins in February 2008 in Encinitas.

The Poway series will explore the theme, “Your Heart’s Desire: Sex and Love in Jewish Literature”, beginning on September 5, at 6:30 p.m., in the Poway Community Room across adjacent to the Poway Branch of the San Diego County Library, 13137 Poway Road and is led by June Cummins, Assistant Professor of English and Comparative Literature at San Diego State University.

Ita Sheres, Professor of English, Comparative Literature and Judaic Studies at San Diego State University is leading the series “Demons, Golems and Dybbuks: Monsters of the Jewish Imagination” that begins on September 19, at the City of San Diego Public Library La Jolla/Riford Branch, located at 7555 Draper St.

“We are delighted that Nextbook and the American Library Association have awarded three new “Let’s Talk about It grants” to our region,” said San Diego County Library Director José Aponte.

- more -

“This programming allows the public a chance to discuss engaging themes with fellow community members with the help of a well-qualified scholar,” said Anna Tatar, Director of San Diego Public Library.

“Participants were so enthusiastic about San Diego’s first Let’s Talk About It: Jewish Literature series, held in March 2006, that they’ve continued to meet informally on Sunday afternoons at San Diego State University” said Principal Librarian Ellen Zyroff.

The program is part of a national initiative of Nextbook and the American Library Association (ALA). The City of San Diego Public Library and San Diego County Library are two of more than 250 libraries nationwide receiving grants to host the series. Visit www.sandiegolibrary.org for more information or to sign-up online for any or all of the series (details below) or visit the national program website at www.nextbook.org/ala.

Series schedules and contact information

“Your Heart’s Desire: Sex and Love in Jewish Literature” (Poway Branch Library, San Diego County Library, 13137 Poway Road)

Wednesdays 6:30-8pm beginning September 5, 2007

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| • Portnoy's Complaint (Philip Roth) | September 5, |
| • The Little Disturbances Of Man (Grace Paley) | October 10 |
| • A Simple Story (S. Y. Agnon) | November 14 |
| • The Lover (A.B. Yehoshua) | December 12 |
| • The Mind Body Problem (Rebecca Goldstein) | January 23 |

To register for the series, contact: Ellen Zyroff at (858) 694-2484 or the Poway Library (858) 513-2939, or email sdcountylibrary@yahoo.com

“Demons, Golems and Dybbuks: Monsters of the Jewish Imagination” (La Jolla/Riford Branch San Diego Public Library, 7555 Draper St)

Wednesdays 6:30-8pm beginning September 19, 2007

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| • Satan In Goray (Isaac Bashevis Singer), | September 19 |
| • The Dybbuk and Other Writings (S. Ansky) | October 17 |
| • The Metamorphosis (Franz Kafka) | November 21 |
| • The Puttermesser Papers (Cynthia Ozick) | December 19 |
| • Angels In America (Tony Kushner) | January 16 |

To register for the series or for more information, contact librarian Julie Zielstra, (619) 236-5817 or visit www.sandiegolibrary.org to sign-up online.

“A Mind of Her Own: Fathers and Daughters in a Changing World” (Encinitas Branch, San Diego County Library, 540 Cornish Drive)

Wednesdays 6:30-8pm beginning February 20, 2008

- Tevye the Dairyman (Sholem Aleichem) February 20
- Bread Givers (Anzia Yezierska) March 12
- O My America! (Johanna Kaplan) April 9
- American Pastoral (Philip Roth) May 14
- Bee Season (Myla Goldberg) June 11

To register for the series, contact librarian Ellen Zyroff, San Diego County Library Coordinator for the series on (858) 694-2484.

<http://www.sandiegolibrary.org>

The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future

###